

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising the steps of:

inputting output characteristics data corresponding to each of a plurality of output apparatus that output an image, including a reference output apparatus; calculating density correction data corresponding to the other output apparatus on the basis of the output characteristics data of the reference output apparatus and the output characteristics data of the other output apparatus;

managing the calculated density correction data corresponding to each of the output apparatus; and

updating the density correction data corresponding to the output characteristics of the other output apparatus according to a revision of the output characteristics data of the reference output apparatus.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the output characteristics data is formed by a calibration function of the output apparatus.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the output characteristics data of the reference output apparatus is derived by measuring a color of an image formed by an image signal corrected on the basis of the density correction data formed by a calibration process, after completion of that calibration process.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of setting a designation of one of the output apparatus as the reference output apparatus.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of setting a designation of plural output apparatus as the plurality of output apparatuses on the basis of an instruction of the user.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

transmitting the correction data to a client computer; and
the client computer correcting input image data on the basis of the density correction data.

7. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus which can communicate to a plurality of output apparatus that output an image, including a reference output apparatus, said image processing apparatus comprising:

an input unit, adapted to input output characteristics data of each output apparatus of said plurality of output apparatus that output an image, including the reference output apparatus;

a correction processor, adapted to calculate correction data corresponding to the other output apparatus, for use in a correcting process to be applied to image data by using the calculated density correction data;

a management unit, adapted to manage the calculated density correction data corresponding to each of the output apparatus; and

a revision unit, adapted to update the density correction data corresponding to the output characteristics of the other output apparatus according to ~~a revision of~~ the output characteristics data of the other output apparatus.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising image forming means for forming an image on the basis of the correction processed image data..

9. (Currently Amended) A memory medium storing a program for an image processing method, wherein said program comprises the steps of:

inputting output characteristics data corresponding to each of a plurality of output apparatus that output an image, including a reference output apparatus;
calculating density correction data corresponding to the other output apparatus on the basis of the output characteristics data of the reference output apparatus and the output characteristics data of the other output apparatus;

managing the calculated density correction data corresponding to each of the output apparatus; and

updating the density correction data corresponding to the output characteristics of the other output apparatus according to ~~a revision of~~ the output characteristics data of the reference output apparatus.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer program for an image processing method, comprising:

inputting output characteristics data corresponding to each of a plurality of output apparatus that output an image, including a reference output apparatus;

calculating density correction data corresponding to the other output apparatus on the basis of the output characteristics data of the reference output apparatus and the output characteristics data of the other output apparatus;

managing the calculated density correction data corresponding to each of the output apparatus; and

updating the density correction data corresponding to the output characteristics of the other output apparatus according to ~~a revision of~~ the output characteristics data of the reference output apparatus.

11. (New) A processing method in a print server, comprising the steps of:

administrating density correction tables of plural printers including a reference printer and at least a second printer; and

updating the density correction table of the second printer in accordance with a change of color reproducibility of the reference printer.

12. (New) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the reference printer is the printer which is selected from among the plural printers and set by a client computer connected to the print server.

13. (New) A method according to Claim 11, wherein each of the plural printers performs calibration of the density correction table according to a detected change of a state of each of the printers.

14. (New) A method according to Claim 13, wherein the update in said updating step is performed when there is no execution demand of the calibration.

15. (New) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the reference printer which is selected from among the plural printers is the printer in which image quality deterioration due to environmental variation is least.
